

## ***New rules for off-road driving, applicable on a trial basis from December 2008***



The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) will shortly:

- proclaim the Swakopmund-Walvis Bay area as a National Park; and
- upgrade the status of the old National West Coast Tourist Recreation Area to a National Park.

Read this pamphlet to know about the rules for off-road driving as well as the consultative approach MET has adopted with the drafting of a Management and Development Plan for the central part of the Namibian Coast.

### **Consultation and consensus**

After a long process of consultation with all key stakeholders, the parks have been zoned according to areas that are environmentally sensitive, suitable for various types of land use, and that may be able to accommodate high impact activities. The consultation process has also resulted in consensus over the new rules required to ensure compatible land usage and smooth management. The public may download the draft Management and Development Plan for the central part of the Namibian Coast from [www.naco-ma.org.na](http://www.naco-ma.org.na) or [www.met.gov.na](http://www.met.gov.na)

Further public consultative meetings will take place during this holiday season on:

- Monday, 29 December, 10:00 -13:00 – Longbeach Lodge, **LANGSTRAND**,
- Monday, 29 December, 15:00 -18:00 – Municipal bungalows conference centre, **SWAKOPMUND**, and
- Tuesday, 30 December, 15:00 -18:00 – UNAM lecture theatre, **HENTIES BAY**.

### **Quadbikes & motorbikes**

Quadbikes and motorbikes (other than registered tour operators) are **only** allowed off proclaimed roads in the following four areas (See maps on flip side):

1. The central part of the dunes between Swakopmund and Walvis Bay (a permit must be obtained),
2. An area to the east of Swakopmund, between the Usakos / Swakopmund tar road and the railway line and the C34 and Deblin Lead Mine (no permit needed),
3. The coastal area between Swakopmund and Henties Bay, but only west of the coastal road, and then only on the beach and existing tracks (no permit needed), and lastly
4. In the riverbed of the lower Omaruru River, from the beach to a point 10 km inland (no permit needed).

***Recreational quadbikes and motorbikes must be transported by trailer to the authorized areas.***

### **Other off-road vehicles**

Anglers, residents and holiday-makers driving “normal” vehicles (cars, 4x4s, bakkies, beach-buggies) may access the entire area from Kuiseb Delta to the

Ugab River, as long as they stay on proclaimed roads, the beach and/or **existing well-used tracks**.

Driving on the beaches by any vehicle in front of the residential areas of Henties Bay, Wlotzkasbaken, Swakopmund and Walvis Bay (from Langstrand to Bird Island), Cape Cross and camp sites (Mile 14, Jakkalsputs, Mile 72 and Mile 108) is not permitted.

### **Accessing the dune belt**

A free permit is required for accessing the dunes between Swakopmund and Walvis Bay with a bike or a vehicle.

Driving in the central part of the dunes between Swakopmund and Walvis Bay requires a permit and stickers with a number on them for identification purposes. The permit and stickers are obtainable free of charge from:

- Ministry of Environment & Tourism (MET) Swakopmund Office, Cnr. Bismarck Street & Sam Nujoma Ave. Tel: 064 - 404-576,
  - MET Walvis Bay Office, 643 Heinrich Bauman St. Tel: 064 - 205-971/2
- Office hours for permits for both MET offices:  
Monday to Friday: 08:00 – 13:00, 14:00 – 17:00.  
Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays:  
08:00 – 13:00,
- Desert Explorers in Swakopmund, every day from 08:00 to 18:00,
  - Dare Devil Adventures at Langstrand, every day from 8:00 to 18:00, and
  - Dune 7 Adventures at Dune 7, every day from 08:00 to 19:00.

Drivers may only access the central dune area from:

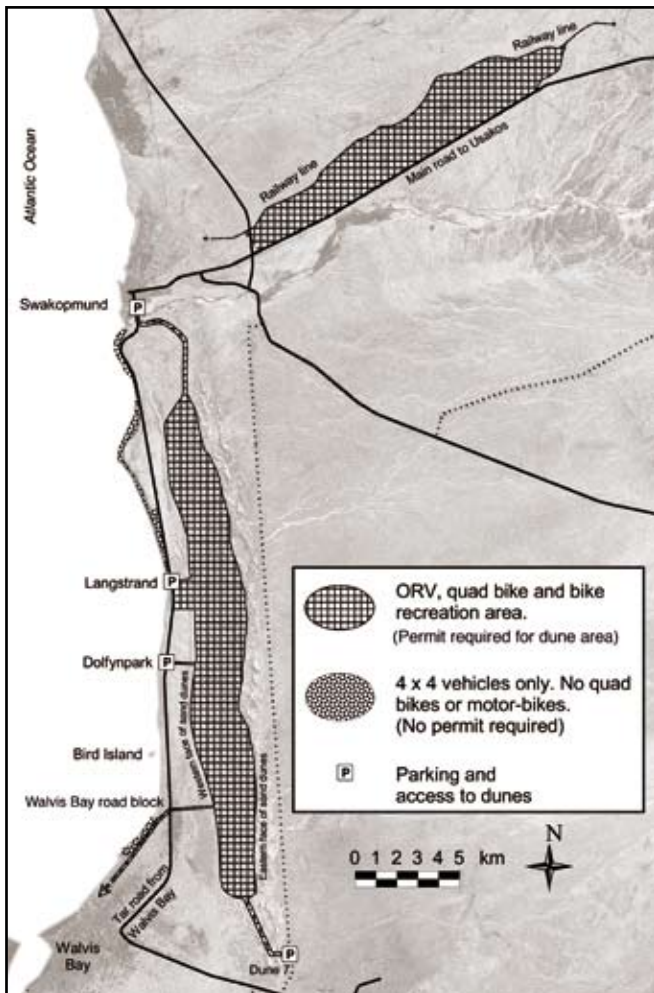
- The old road under the Swakop bridge – the parking area is at the premises of Desert Explorers. Enter the dunes through the demarcated corridor, and
- The demarcated corridors opposite Langstrand, Dolfynstrand, the Walvis Bay road block and Dune 7. Parking space is available in these corridors.

***Bikes and vehilces must stay inside demarcated corridors to access the dunes.***

These rules will be strictly enforced and honorary wardens will be on duty to assist the authorities.

### Central part of the dunes between Swakopmund and Walvis Bay

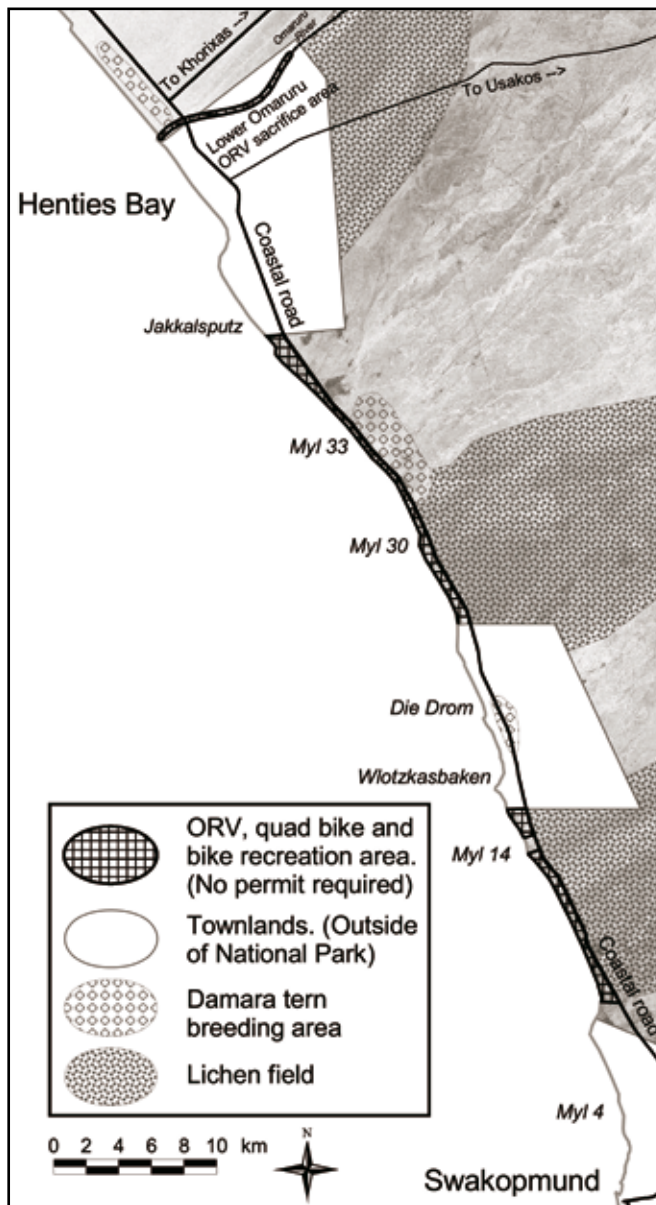
### Area east of Swakopmund, between Usakos/Swakopmund tar road and railway line



#### SAFETY FIRST

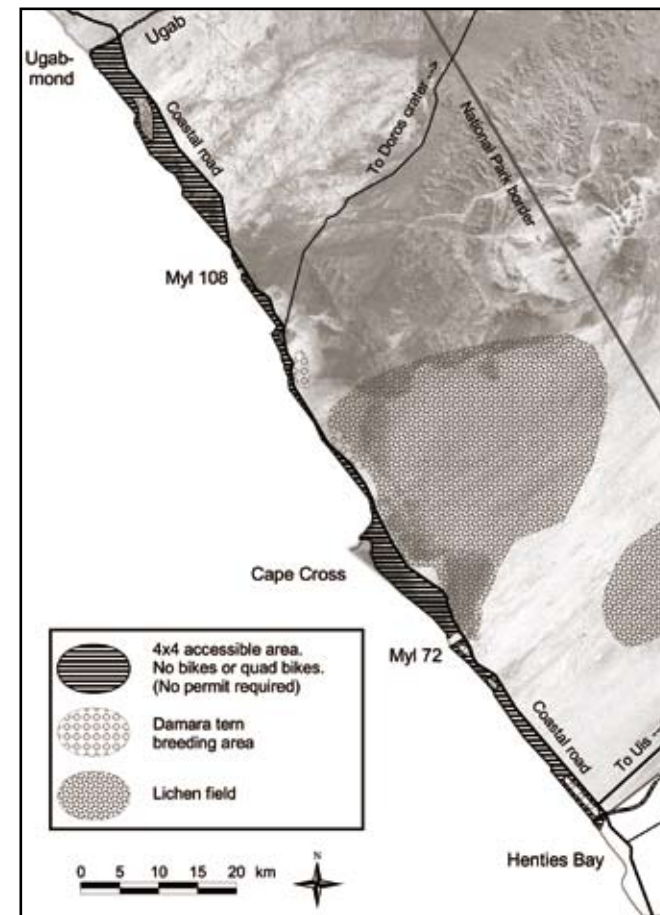
- Traffic rules and regulations apply to all off-road drivers, and
- Quad and two wheel bike drivers must wear helmets for their own safety.

### Coastal area between Swakopmund and Henties Bay



Please report transgressions to:  
 Tel: 081 - 922 (from a cell phone)  
 or Tel: 213 - 922 (from a land line).

### Coastal area between Henties Bay and the Ugab River



### Caring for the coast – Caring for the future



Ministry of Environment and Tourism,  
 Private Bag 13346,  
 Windhoek, Namibia

